

by missile technology to our surface ships, stepping up production of the *Virginia*-class program makes perfect sense since those submarines are not at risk from even the most sophisticated airborne missiles, and the Chinese and Russian navies know that.

Madam Speaker, in addition, last September, the new AUKUS security alliance between the U.S., Australia, and the U.K., whose centerpiece is the sharing of nuclear propulsion technology for a new class of Australian submarines, is another powerful, tangible statement about the importance of strengthening our joint allied undersea capability.

As David Ignatius, a longtime observer of U.S. foreign policy, recently wrote in *The Washington Post*: “The AUKUS alliance with Australia and Britain to build nuclear submarines and share other military technology might be the most important strategic move” by the U.S. “in decades.”

The Biden DPA order last month and the AUKUS agreement last September are a powerful, tangible signal by the U.S. to our allies and friends who support a collaborative action to uphold international rule of law, which is critical to maintaining a peaceful coexistence among the world’s nations.

COMBATING CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I am an avid outdoorsman. In November and December, if I have time, I tend to spend it out in the woods, deer hunting. This is a popular passion among many Pennsylvanians as well as Americans across our great country. Nothing beats those early mornings heading out to the woods in hopes you will return successful.

But our deer are currently threatened by chronic wasting disease. This is a contagious, neurological disease affecting deer, elk, and moose that is always fatal. CWD has been detected in 25 States and was first discovered in Pennsylvania deer nearly 10 years ago.

Working across the aisle, my colleagues and I introduced H.R. 5608, the Chronic Wasting Disease Research and Management Act, which unanimously passed out of the House Agriculture Committee.

By working closely with stakeholders, we developed a bill to take us one step closer to better understanding the genetic implications of the disease and developing policies best suited to solve the problem.

Specifically, this legislation authorizes \$70 million to split evenly between CWD management and research efforts through USDA cooperative agreements.

The research funds are authorized to be spent on testing and detecting CWD

in live cervids, noncervids, and the environment. Additionally, these funds are authorized for research of genetic resistance to chronic wasting disease, sustainable cervid harvest management practices, and any additional factors of local CWD emergence.

The management section authorizes funding for State or Tribal wildlife agencies and departments of agriculture based on various funding priorities, including the highest incidences of CWD, areas demonstrating greatest financial commitments to addressing CWD, efforts to develop CWD programs and policies, areas of greatest risk of being introduced to CWD, and areas responding to new outbreaks.

This bill also includes key education provisions in which USDA, State, and Tribal agencies are authorized to develop materials to inform the public on chronic wasting disease.

Last but certainly not least, H.R. 5608 directs USDA review of the herd certification program within 18 months.

Madam Speaker, we need all hands on deck to help combat this disease, maintain a healthy deer population, and protect our beloved elk range—certainly, our elk range in Pennsylvania, which is near and dear to me. It is imperative we better understand the transmission of, resistance to, and diagnosis of CWD.

I am really pleased that, in December, this House passed H.R. 5608 with strong bipartisan support, marking an important step in that direction. Today, we wait for the Senate to take up this time-sensitive bill. It is my belief our colleagues in the Senate recognize the urgency and the potential negative economic impacts of CWD if it continues to spread at this rate and work toward its passage.

REMEMBERING THE LATE SARAH TYREE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Sarah Tyree, a passionate advocate who spent her career fighting for farmers, advocating for rural and urban agriculture, and working to end hunger.

Sarah dedicated herself to ending hunger and spent her life working on issues like promoting nutrition and reforming our food system to make eating locally grown foods more accessible to everyone.

After starting her career on Capitol Hill, Sarah worked for the Biotechnology Industry Organization and then the Missouri State Department of Agriculture, helping to establish the Missouri Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.

Sarah served as vice president of the agricultural consulting firm AgriLogic, and then spent the last 15 years of her career at the financial cooperative

CoBank here in Washington, D.C., where she most recently served as vice president for policy and public affairs.

Madam Speaker, the impact of Sarah’s commitment to agriculture and local farming cannot be understated. She established a partnership between CoBank and the D.C. Central Kitchen, which allowed for the kitchen to significantly expand their local purchasing power. Her efforts helped many farmers keep land that they may have otherwise lost due to the pandemic.

Sarah was a devoted member of the D.C. Central Kitchen board of directors for many years, and she served as chair of the board between 2013 and 2018. In this capacity, Sarah continued her amazing work to end hunger and played a major role in securing funding to establish D.C. Central Kitchen’s new location and expand its reach.

Sarah was unbelievably generous in her support of a cause that was dear to me, Monte Belmonte’s annual march across Western Massachusetts to end hunger and to help support the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. She poured her energy into supporting local and national efforts to end hunger while also empowering the next generation of leaders in combating hunger through her work as a board chairman of the Campus Kitchens Project.

Sarah never stopped imagining a bigger and brighter future. She believed in harnessing the power of community to make America the best that we can be, promoting nutrition, supporting local farmers, and fighting to end hunger along the way. Sarah approached her work and this life with an open heart and a genuine desire to do good. She cared about improving the lives of others in a touching and rare way and has left an immeasurable impact on this world.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, and all those whom Sarah’s light touched, it is my great privilege and honor to celebrate and recognize the wonderful life of the late Sarah Tyree.

I want to say that I think I speak for all of my colleagues in this Chamber when I extend our condolences to her husband and her family. I hope that they all get comfort out of the fact that Sarah made such a difference for so many in this country and around the world.

NEW FUNDING FOR SEPTA FROM INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, last Friday was a big day for infrastructure in the Philadelphia region.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg was in Philly to announce the first tranche of funding for bridges under the new law, including \$1.6 billion for Pennsylvania bridges.

That afternoon, I got to highlight how funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will improve our regional public transit system, known as SEPTA.

Over the next 5 years, SEPTA will receive more than \$500 million more than expected. That money will help SEPTA accelerate repair efforts, including rehabilitation projects, vehicle replacement, and improving accessibility of rail and trolley stations.

While all of these upgrades are needed, the forthcoming work on accessibility is especially important. In fact, it is essential. People across our region rely on SEPTA every day to get to work, take their kids to school, buy groceries, go to the doctor, and more. Our neighbors should be able to complete these daily tasks without having to plan around which station has an elevator to accommodate a wheelchair or which stop is easier to get a baby stroller in and out of.

I am glad the infrastructure funding that Congress and President Biden delivered will help get this much-needed work done more quickly. Our Delaware Valley residents deserve it.

□ 1215

ELECTION WORKERS ARE ESSENTIAL

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise because we have seen a continuous assault on voting rights and election integrity in recent years, pushed by partisan operatives, foreign governments and, most disturbingly, some of our own elected officials.

Over the weekend, the former President pressed members of his party in Pennsylvania to plant more Republican operatives in our election system in order to influence the counting of votes.

The former President said, "We have to be a lot sharper the next time when it comes to counting the vote. Sometimes the vote counter is more important than the candidate." That is just wrong.

I will be the first to agree that our election workers are essential, but not because they are supposed to change the results in our elections for one political party or another. That is not how American elections work. Here, the people decide.

This kind of mindset is exactly why it is so important to have people of good character trained and ready to execute the duties of poll workers faithfully. Poll workers are the first line of defense for ensuring the right to vote. They help voters overcome challenges, both bureaucratic and physical, at the polls. They also help educate the public about how safe and effective our election system really is.

We need more engaged citizens who want to contribute to our democracy to get involved and sign up to be poll workers in our communities. I encourage my constituents to reach out to their county election officials today to learn more about this unique opportunity to uphold our democratic sys-

tem and help ensure that all eligible voters are able to exercise their most essential freedom, the right to vote.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW DELIVERS BENEFITS

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, one of the highlights of congressional action last year was the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and we are already seeing the impact in my district, Pennsylvania's 5th, and the greater Philadelphia region.

Just before the holidays, EPA Administrator Regan joined me at the Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site to announce that the agency had committed millions in funding from that infrastructure bill to this project, moving its anticipated completion date up to 2023.

At this former landfill, chemicals had leached into the soil and groundwater for decades in the largely minority community of Eastwick. Thanks to funding from the new infrastructure package, many sites like Lower Darby Creek will see their cleanup accelerated, and nearly 50 additional Superfund sites will get the green light to be cleaned up.

Less pollution, safer communities, and more jobs.

I am proud to deliver these benefits to PA-05 through the bipartisan infrastructure law.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BEATTY) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

All-knowing, all-seeing God, look upon us this day. Nothing is hidden from Your sight. All that we are is laid bare before You.

Peer into our innermost thoughts and redeem the unworthiness therein that attempts to define us. Search our souls and give comfort to the discontent that threatens to overwhelm us.

In Your mercy, see us as we are meant to be and give us the light of Your countenance to live into that hope.

Then, as we have been seen, may we see. As we gaze around us, help us to look upon the people You have placed in our paths with the same acceptance that You have shown us.

Give us Your sight, that we would not be the judge of unworthiness, but

the agents of Your redemption. Give us eyes to see the discontented, that we would be instruments of Your comfort and gracious care, with a selfless gesture, a kind word, a helping hand.

Reveal all around us who seek to remain invisible or who have, by our indifference, remained hidden, that no one would have cause to believe that they remain outside Your grace and mercy.

In Your omniscient name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2471. An act to measure the progress of post-disaster recovery and efforts to address corruption, governance, rule of law, and media freedoms in Haiti.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-567, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Interest Declassification Board:

Carter Burwell of Virginia.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF JAMES S. MOULTHROP, P.E.

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of James S. Moulthrop, P.E., a western Pennsylvania native and long-time Pennsylvania Department of Transportation professional whose impact has traveled well beyond the Keystone State.